

# Harford County Commission on Disabilities

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## Meeting Minutes June 25, 2012

### Attendance:

Members Present:	Members Absent:	Associate Members Present:
Niki Biggs	Susan Austin	Matthew Combs
Helene Dubay	Councilman Guthrie	
Reverend Ellison	Michael Mathias	
Keith England	Ben Mayforth	
Laurie Kwiedorowicz	Andrea Wiley	
Tracy Moore		
Marc Weinstein		

- I. Introductions: Commissioners and visitors introduced themselves.
- II. Chairperson Marc Weinstein called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. Introductions followed.
- II. Minutes: The minutes of the May 21, 2012 meeting were approved with correction.
- III. Committee Reports:
  - A. Employment Committee:
    1. The Annual Employment Awards Luncheon will be held on Thursday, October 18, 2012, at the Maryland Golf and Country Clubs.
    2. Nomination forms for the Annual Employment Awards will be available on-line in mid-July at <http://www.harfordcountymd.gov/services/disabilities>
    3. The Employment Committee has been invited to participate in the Aberdeen Proving Ground Disability Employment Awareness Month observance in late October. More to follow.
    4. The next meeting of the committee will be held on Thursday, September 6, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. at the Aberdeen Workforce Center.

- B. Membership:
1. The Commission voted to recommend Matthew Combs to the County Executive to fill the position of Student Representative for the 2012/2013 school year.
  2. Applicants for current vacancies on the Commission were welcomed to the meeting. Position descriptions for Commission Member and Associate Member were distributed.
- C. Accessibility Committee
1. Fair Housing Services: No new information.
  2. Accessible County Facilities: Accessibility upgrades to the entrance to the Law Library in the Harford County Courthouse have been planned. More information to follow.
  3. Request for Waiver of the MD Accessibility Code: No new requests.
  4. Ramps Program: No new information.
  5. Operation Access: No new information.
- D. Education Committee: Sgt. Wilkinson reported that:
1. local law enforcement can now obtain information on parking placards for motorists with disabilities. Previously only MVA personnel had access to the information.
  2. residents of multi-family buildings can apply for a Residential Parking Permit from the MVA.
  3. confiscation of a parking placard by a Sheriff's Deputy has resulted in multiple actions against the driver. Sgt Wilkinson shared the information with all shifts to highlight the overall impact of enforcing "handicapped parking" laws.
- E. Government and Community Relations Committee:
1. Web page: Commissioners interested in researching agencies to focus under the "Spotlight on Services" are asked to contact Sharon Grzanka.
  2. Legislative Committee: No new information.
- F. Voice of the Disability Community:

1. Maryland Alliance of Local Commissions and Committees on Disabilities: The next meeting will be held on August 6, 2012 in Howard County.
  2. Maryland Youth Leadership Forum: Several Harford County students applied to attend the Youth Leadership Forum to be held June 26 - 29, 2012. The Commission hopes to invite the student delegates from Harford County to attend a Commission meeting after the forum to discuss their experience.
  3. Jurisdictional Planning Group: Again during Emergency Preparedness Month in September, the Commission, the Health Department and the Emergency Operation Center will sponsor information tables at the branches of the Harford County Public Library and the Senior Activity Centers. A number of first aid kits and emergency preparedness brochures will be available at no charge.
- G. Transportation Committee: The transportation committee met on April 27, 2012. Marc Weinstein reported that work continues on the webinar. The voice-over was taped today at Harford Cable Network. Next step is editing video, voice, and PowerPoint.
- IV. Disabilities Coordinator Report: Anne Cerruto reported that the Maryland Access Point (MAP) Harford County kick-off event will be held on Tuesday, July 31, 2012 at the Liriodendron. She added that calls to the MAP information line at the Office on Aging from individuals with disabilities have started to come in as a result of outreach to community agencies and organizations.
- V. Old Business: *Art Without Boundaries*:
- A. The Commission and the Harford County Cultural Arts Board, in cooperation with the Harford Community College's Visual, Performing and Applied Arts Division, will host an art exhibit from July 13 through August 31, 2012. The exhibit, *Art Without Boundaries*, will feature work by artists with and without disabilities in the Student Gallery at Joppa Hall, Harford Community College.
  - B. Natalie Weeks, Cultural Arts Board Coordinator, will accept submissions, both two and three dimensional, on Monday, July 9, 2012, from 2:00-6:00 p.m. at the student gallery.

- C. On Thursday, July 26, 2012, a reception marking the 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act will be held from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Student Gallery.
- D. A reminder: the Commission has canceled its July 23, 2012 meeting so that Commissioners can attend the reception on July 26<sup>th</sup>.

VI. New Business:

- A. Updating "About the Harford County Commission on Disabilities: Information for New Commissioners and Associate Members." Commissioners were asked to review the document and consider taking leadership positions and/or membership on commission committees which have vacancies due to Commission membership changes.

VII. Public Comment and Announcements:

- A. Each applicant for Commission membership who was present provided a "one minute resume."
- B. Tracy Moore reported that she was inspired by Pete Raimondi's advocacy. She contacted the corporate offices of a local retail outlet to inform them that she couldn't maneuver through the store aisles in her wheelchair. She was informed that local store management had been contacted about the issue and was invited to revisit the store and was assured that she would have a different shopping experience. Way to go, Tracy!

VIII. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

This document is available in alternative format upon request:  
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